Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08 TRSE-00 /097 W ------025136 010059Z /61

R 311644Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0742
INFO EC COLLECTIVE
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: EEC, XC, DA

SUBJECT: US-EC PRESIDENCY DIALOGUE: POLITICAL DIRECTOR'S MEETING, BONN, JULY 26-27: FOLLOW-UP ON ASEAN

REFERENCE: BONN 13781

- 1. GERMAN CHAIRMAN OF NINE'S ASEAN WORKING GROUP HAS GIVEN US FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON POLITICAL DIRECTOR'S DISCUSSIONS ON NOVEMBER 20 CONFERENCE:
- -- THE WORKING GROUP AGREED THAT THE ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL LIKELY EXPECT FROM THEIR EC COLLEAGUES SOME FORM OF POLITICAL STATEMENT ENDORSING THE ASEAN GROUPING.

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- -- GERMAN POLITICAL DIRECTOR BLECH ARGUED THAT THE NINE SHOULD PREPARE A POSITION ON THIS ISSUE AS WELL AS ON HOW THEY WILL REACT TO OTHER POLITICAL QUESTIONS.
- -- THE GERMANS, IN KEEPING WITH THEIR INTEREST IN IMPROVING TIES WITH ASEAN, LEAN TOWARD ACKNOWLEDGING ASEAN'S ROLE AS A STABLE, POSITIVE ELEMENT IN ASIA.

-- HOWEVER, THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS, SOME OF WHOM EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT DISCUSSING POLITICAL ISSUES WITH ASEAN, AGAIN DECIDED TO HOLD OFF ON THE PREPARATION OF A COMMUNITY POSITION.

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